

**Lunenburg Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2015**

Minutes approved at 2/10/15 COA Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Pete Lincoln called the meeting to order at 9:25AM.

Present: Pete Lincoln (Chairperson), Debbie Lincoln, Betty DiGiacomo, Sarah Grant, Diane Nowd, Cheryl Moisan, Brian Guenard, Kevin McNally, Judy Tarbell, Jacquelyn Dwyer & Sue Doherty (Admin. Asst).

Not present were Deb Seeley (Vice Chair) & Doreen Noble (Director).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Lincoln announced that in the event of the absence of both the Chair and the Vice Chair, Judy Tarbell will Chair the Council on Aging (COA) meeting.

Mr. Lincoln thanked the board for supplying goodies for the December COA meeting. He also mentioned that the COA Holiday Open House was a wonderful event and the Harpist was very good.

Mr. Lincoln mentioned that he had received word that State Rep. Jen Benson has regularly scheduled meetings on Tuesday mornings which would make it difficult for her to attend a COA meeting. His hope is to discuss Formula Grant monies along with other senior citizen issues.

Board members discussed the possibility of rescheduling a COA meeting to a later time but no date was set for this meeting.

Outreach Coordinator, Faith Anderson, has returned to work and Mr. Lincoln gave kudos to Jeanne Tatro for her temporary services in Ms. Anderson's absence.

Mr. Lincoln stated that letters of support for the proposed shuffle board court at the senior center have been sent to Dave MacDonald and it is hoped that work can begin on this new project in the spring.

Board members also discussed putting together a "wish list" to be submitted to the Eagle House Supporters Inc. which would include purchasing benches for the bocce/shuffle board courts at the senior center.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Ms. Lincoln moved to accept the December 16, 2014 Council on Aging (COA) minutes. Ms. Tarbell seconded. On vote, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Lincoln questioned what the Friendly Senior donation was for, which was mentioned in the December minutes.

Ms. Doherty explained that the Friendly Seniors, who are a social group, meet once a month during regular operating hours at the Eagle House, so no other COA programming is scheduled during that time. In appreciation for doing this for them, the Friendly Seniors have been giving a yearly donation to the Eagle House Supporters Inc. (COA's 501c fundraising group) to be used towards programming and other activities at the Eagle House which are not covered in the COA Town budget.

CURRENT BUSINESS

- **Director's Report:** Ms. Noble had previously prepared a Director's report that was distributed to the board for review which included the following:
 - The Lunenburg Property Tax Work Off Program has encountered problems due to IRS regulations. There is now a large amount of paper work that now needs to be completed by participants and they will be taxed on their work off. The Town will be issuing W2 forms at the end of the year for the amount of money that is being deducted for property tax. People will be taxed twice (2014 & 2015) in this upcoming tax year. The concern is that the reporting of wages may affect people who are collecting assistance like Food Stamps or Fuel Assistance. Placement of participants has been postponed until later in January.

- Faith Anderson has returned to work after an extended medical leave. She is currently working on developing a larger base of volunteers and will bring back the lunch bunch program in the spring. The Dine Around club has been discontinued.
- The Food Service Coordinator position on Wednesdays & Thursdays has been filled by Jeanne Tatro, and she will be taking the Serve Safe exam in March. It is hoped that the salad bar will be returning on Thursdays in April.
- While out this week, Ms. Noble will be working on the FY16 budget, which is due on 1/16/15. Her budget will reflect a request for funding that exceeds the Town Manager's recommended budget. Ms. Noble will give a budget presentation at the next COA meeting.

2. Task Groups (suggestions): Due to the abundance of people on the Public Relations task group, Judy Tarbell volunteered to leave the Public Relations and join the Communication task group. Board members discussed assigning "Point People" to each task group as follows:

- **Advocacy** (*charge of task group is to deal with elder issues within Lunenburg*)
Deb Seeley (Diane Nowd will serve as point person in Ms. Seeley's absence)
- **Communication** (*charge of task group is to deal with how the staff, board members and senior center participants communicate with each other.*)
Debbie Lincoln
- **Public Relations** – (*charge of task group is to further investigate how to reach a broader audience*)
Brian Guenard

NOTICES & COMMUNICATIONS: None

BOARD COMMENT: Ms. Moisan informed the board that she will not be in attendance at the February COA meeting.

Ms. Lincoln requested that board members come up with suggestions for the COA "Wish List" for the February COA meeting.

Board members discussed the idea of developing a Facebook page for the Council on Aging and thought that this may be a good charge for the Public Relations Task Group.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Mr. Guenard moved to adjourn the COA meeting. Ms. Grant seconded.
On vote, motion carried unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 10:20AM

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

February 10, 2015

Respectfully Submitted

Susan Doherty, Administrative Assistant

Lunenburg Council on Aging